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35TH CONGRESS, 1st Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { REPORT No. 315.

U.S. Congress. House. Committee on invalid pensions.

ANTHONY WALTER BAYARD.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 521.]

APRIL 17, 1858.

Mr. ANDERSON, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the memorial and accompanying papers in case of Anthony Walter Bayard, asking an increase of invalid pension, report:

That at the 2d session of the 33d Congress, a report and bill for his benefit was introduced, your committee will now adopt that bill and report, and submit the same to the House:

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Anthony Walter Bayard, have had the same under consideration and report:

That the petitioner was a private in the war of 1812, and served in the wars with the Indians in the northwest, and that he was severely wounded upon three occasions, by which he is wholly disabled, and for which he was placed on the pension roll, in 1844, at the rate of eight dollars per month. He is now poor, very helpless and decrepit. He was a very daring and valuable soldier. At the siege of Fort Harrison the Indians succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses, which communicated to the roof of the soldiers' barracks. The commanding officer called for volunteers to go upon the roof, in point-blank shot of the enemy's rifles, and extinguish the fire. The petitioner and another soldier volunteered, and mounted the burning roof. His companion was instantly shot dead, and the petitioner badly wounded. He succeeded in extinguishing the fire. This service was, at the time, regarded by the officers as most hazardous and of great value to the American forces. The petitioner claims that his disability is total, rendering him dependent; that it results from wounds received whilst rendering most gallant, hazardous, and valuable services; and that, in such a case, a pension of eight dollars per month is not sufficient. If, for gallant services and entire disability, it were justifiable, by special enactment, to grant relief beyond the provisions of the general pension law, in any case, the committee know of no case more meritorious than that of the petitioner. The committee will not so recommend, but report a bill for such action as the judgment of the House may approve.

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